

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An orientation independent compartment air pressure relief valve comprising:
 - a. a housing, said housing comprising a throughflow channel for allowing fluid communication from an intake of said channel to an exhaust of said channel; and
 - b. a generally planar, non-integrated sealing flap secured to said housing with fastening means such that said sealing flap closes said exhaust of said channel and ~~is adapted to~~ flexibly opens in response to pressure, said sealing flap comprising a generally planar, relatively pliable layer oriented toward said intake and a generally planar, relatively rigid layer oriented toward said exhaust, whereby said relatively rigid layer operates to close said sealing flap irrespective of said pressure relief valve's orientation with respect to gravity.
2. (Original) The pressure relief valve of Claim 1, wherein said relatively rigid layer is bonded to said relatively pliable layer.
3. (Currently Amended) The pressure relief valve of Claim 2, wherein said sealing flap is secured to said housing by said fastening means disposed proximal to one sealing flap edge ~~to said housing~~.

4. (Original) The pressure relief valve of Claim 3, wherein said housing further comprises interlocks whereby said housing may be coupled with a like housing.
5. (Original) The pressure relief valve of Claim 3, further comprising a support spanning the exhaust end of said channel.
6. (Original) The pressure relief valve of Claim 2, further comprising a support spanning the exhaust end of said channel.
7. (Currently Amended) The pressure relief valve of Claim 6, wherein said sealing flap is secured to said support by said fastening means disposed approximately at a centerline of said sealing flap.
8. (Original) The pressure relief valve of Claim 7, wherein said housing further comprises interlocks whereby said housing may be coupled with a like housing.
9. (Currently Amended) The pressure relief valve of Claim 8, wherein said ~~sealing flap is secured to said support by heat staking~~ fastening means are heat stakes.

10. (Currently Amended) The pressure relief valve of Claim 1, wherein said relatively rigid layer is a comb-like structure, said comb-like structure having a plurality of tines and overlays said relatively pliable layer with respect to the exhaust.
11. (Currently Amended) The pressure relief valve of Claim 10, wherein said sealing flap is secured to said housing by said fastening means disposed proximal to ~~by~~ one sealing flap edge ~~to said housing~~.
12. (Original) The pressure relief valve of Claim 11, wherein said housing further comprises interlocks whereby said housing may be coupled with a like housing.
13. (Currently Amended) The pressure relief valve of Claim 10 ~~12~~, further comprising a support spanning the exhaust end of said channel- and where said sealing flap comprises two comb-like structures extending generally perpendicularly from said support, said sealing flap being secured to said support by said fastening means disposed approximately at a centerline of said sealing flap.
14. (Original) The pressure relief valve of Claim 11, further comprising a support spanning the exhaust end of said channel.

15. (Original) The pressure relief valve of Claim 14, wherein said sealing flap is secured to said support.
16. (Currently Amended) The pressure relief valve of Claim 13 ~~15~~, wherein said ~~sealing flap~~ is secured to said support by heat staking ~~fastening means are heat stakes~~.
17. (Original) The pressure relief valve of Claim 16, wherein said housing further comprises interlocks whereby said housing may be coupled with a like housing.